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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Stephen J. MILLER et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: January 19, 2001 )  
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A )  
HIGHLY PARAFFINIC DIESEL )  
FUEL HAVING A HIGH ISO- )  
PARAFFIN TO NORMAL )  
PARAFFIN MOLE RATIO )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2-22 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

23. A process according to Claim 1 wherein the catalyst further comprises a hydrocracking catalyst.

24. A process for producing a diesel fuel comprising contacting in a isomerization/cracking reaction zone a feed having at least 40% C<sub>10+</sub> normal paraffins and at least 20% C<sub>26+</sub> paraffins with a layered bed system comprising a hydrocracking catalyst, and a catalyst comprising at least one